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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-37 were originally pending.

Please withdraw and cancel Claims 35-37 without prejudice as belonging to non-elected subject matter.

Please amend Claims 1-8, 10, 12, 16-18, 20-21, 24-26, and 31.

Kindly add Claims 38-46 are added.

Accordingly, claims 1-34 and 38-46 are currently pending.

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

CLAIM LISTING

1. (Presently amended) A method comprising:

~~providing user interface information into firmware on a USB device, the user interface information corresponding to the USB device; and~~

~~responsive to~~ receiving, by a USB device, a host-specific device request from an application executing on a computing device coupled to the USB device;; and

identifying, by the USB device, a host-defined string descriptor defined by the application, the host-defined string descriptor being stored in firmware of the USB device.

~~communicating the user interface information to a requestor.~~

2. (Presently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the host-defined string descriptor comprises ~~user interface information comprises:~~ a custom property section comprised of one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry comprising information that corresponds to a respective custom property for the USB device.

3. (Presently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the host-defined string descriptor ~~user interface information comprises~~ comprises:

a custom property section comprising one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry corresponding to a respective custom property for the USB device; and

a header section comprising an indication of the number of custom property entries for which mappings exist in the custom property section.

4. (Presently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the host-defined string descriptor comprises user interface information ~~is selected from information~~ comprising an icon, a font, a picture, a label, a help page, or a URL.

5. (Presently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the ~~user interface information is in a data format specified by~~ application is an operating system.

6. (Presently amended) A method comprising

querying, by a computing device coupled to a USB device, the USB device with a host-specific device request ~~that corresponds to a descriptor~~ for a host-defined string descriptor associated with ~~, the descriptor indicating~~ user interface information ~~corresponding to~~ stored in firmware of the USB device;

responsive to the querying, receiving by the computing device, at least a portion of the user interface information~~; and~~

~~displaying a set of user interface elements specified by the user interface information~~.

7. (Presently amended) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the host-defined string descriptor comprises: a custom property section comprised of one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry comprising information that corresponds to a respective custom property for the USB device.

8. (Presently amended) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the host-defined string descriptor comprises:

a custom property section comprising one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry corresponding to a single custom property for the USB device; and

a header section comprising an indication of the number of custom properties property entries for which mappings exist in the custom property section.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the set of user interface elements are selected from elements comprising an icon, a font, a picture, a label, a help page, or a URL.

10. (Presently amended) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the ~~user interface information~~ at least a portion of the user interface information is in a data format specified by an operating system.

11. (Original) One or more computer-readable media containing a computer executable program that performs a method as recited in claim 6.

12. (Currently amended) In a USB device that responds to device requests from a host, the device requests including USB-specific device requests with corresponding USB-specified request codes and device-specific device requests with corresponding device-specified request codes, the USB-specific device requests including a GET_DESCRIPTOR device request with a corresponding GET_DESCRIPTOR request code, a method ~~of implementing a host-specific device request to display user interface elements that correspond to the USB device, the method~~ comprising:

receiving a GET_DESCRIPTOR device request that specifies a predetermined index, the GET_DESCRIPTOR device request having been received from an application executing on a remote computing device; and

responding to the GET_DESCRIPTOR device request by returning a ~~descriptor~~ device-specific request code ~~that corresponds in~~ for subsequent use by the USB device to ~~the~~ send an extended property descriptor responsive to subsequent receipt of a host-specific device request ~~for a device specific request code~~ from the remote computing device, the extended property descriptor specifying user interface information corresponding to the USB device and provided by a vendor as being in a data format compatible with the application.

13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the user interface information comprises:

a custom property section comprised of one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry comprising information that corresponds to a respective custom property for the USB device.

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the user interface information comprises:

a custom property section comprising one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry corresponding to a single custom property for the USB device; and

a header section comprising an indication of the number of custom properties property entries for which mappings exist in the custom property section.

15. (Original) One or more computer-readable media containing a computer executable program that performs a method as recited in claim 12.

16. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

communicating, by a component of an operating system, a non-standard USB device request to a device, the non-standard USB device request requesting an extended property from the device, the extended property providing data that is predetermined to be compatible for use by the component or the operating system, the data comprising user interface information associated with the USB device; and

responsive to the communicating, receiving, by the component, an extended property descriptor from the device, the extended property descriptor comprising at least the extended property ~~specifying user interface information corresponding to the USB device~~.

17. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the method further comprises:

augmenting, by the operating system, ~~user interface information comprises information that is used by an operating system to augment~~ a shell or user interface at the remote computing device to represent the USB device.

18. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the extended property descriptor further comprises a custom property section comprised of one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry comprising information that corresponds to a respective custom property for the USB device.

19. (Original) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the extended property descriptor further comprises:

a custom property section comprising one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry corresponding to a single custom property for the USB device; and

a header section comprising an indication of the number of custom properties property entries for which mappings exist in the custom property section.

20. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the extended property descriptor comprises user interface information corresponding to the USB device, the method further comprising:

responsive to receiving the property descriptor, providing information corresponding to the user interface information to one or more computer program applications.

21. (Currently amended) A USB device comprising:

a processor;

a port coupled to the processor;

a memory coupled to the processor;

an extended property descriptor stored in the memory, the extended property descriptor identifying a set of user interface information corresponding to the USB device and in a data format predetermined to be compatible for use by a requesting application executing on a remote computing device; and

a control program module stored in the memory, the control program module being configured to send the extended configuration descriptor to a requestor in response to receiving a host-specific device request at the port.

22. (Original) A USB device recited in claim 21, wherein the extended property descriptor comprises:

a custom property section comprised of one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry comprising information that corresponds to a respective custom property for the USB device.

23. (Original) A USB device recited in claim 21, wherein the extended property descriptor comprises:

a custom property section comprising one or more custom property entries, each custom property entry corresponding to a single custom property for the USB device; and

a header section comprising an indication of the number of custom properties property entries for which mappings exist in the custom property section.

24. (Currently amended) A USB device recited in claim 21, wherein the set of user interface information is in a data format specified ~~by~~ in anticipation of its compatible use by an operating system.

25. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium containing computer-executable instructions utilized by an application program to interact with a USB device, wherein the computer-executable instructions comprise:

receiving a request from an application program for a descriptor that specifies user interface information in a data format predetermined to be compatible for use by the application program and corresponding to the USB device;

querying the USB device with a host-specific device request to obtain the property descriptor;

responsive to the querying, receiving the descriptor; and

providing the received property descriptor to the requesting application program.

26. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the computer-executable instructions further comprise instructions for:

augmenting, by the application program, ~~user interface information corresponds to information used to augment~~ a shell or user interface with the user interface information ~~that is presentable~~ for presentation to a user.

27. (Original) A computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the obtained property descriptor comprises:

one or more custom property sections, each custom property section indicating information corresponding to a user interface element for the USB device.

28. (Original) A computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the obtained property descriptor comprises:

a header section indicating the number of custom properties for which mappings exist in the property descriptor; and,

one or more custom property sections, each custom property section indicating information corresponding to a user interface element for the USB device.

29. (Original) A computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the user interface information is selected from information comprising an icon, a font, a picture, a label, a help page, or a URL.

30. (Original) A computer comprising one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 25.

31. (Currently amended) One or more computer-readable media containing a computer-executable program for use in conjunction with a USB device that responds to device requests from the program, the device requests including USB-specific device requests with corresponding USB-specified request codes and device-specific device requests with corresponding device-specified request codes, ~~, the~~ the program comprising:

receiving a host-specific request for an extended property descriptor from a requestor, the extended property descriptor indicating one or more user interface elements that correspond to the USB device, the one or more user interface elements being predetermined to be compatible for use by an application executing or for execution on a remote computing device; and

responsive to the receiving, communicating the extended property descriptor to the requestor.

32. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 31, wherein the property descriptor comprises:

a custom property section that corresponds to a user interface element associated with the USB device.

33. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 31, wherein the property descriptor comprises:

a header section indicating the number of custom properties for which mappings exist in the property descriptor; and,

one or more custom property sections, each custom property section corresponding to a respective user interface associated with the USB device.

34. (Original) A computer comprising one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 31.

35 – 37. (Canceled).

38. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising communicating, by the USB device, the host-defined string descriptor to the application.

39. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the host-defined string descriptor comprises information in a data format specified by a host of the USB device.

40. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the host-defined string descriptor comprises user interface elements for presentation by the application to a user for interfacing with the USB device.

41. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the host-defined string descriptor comprises one or more user interface elements such as an icon, a font, a picture, a label, a help page, or a URL.

42. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the host-defined string descriptor comprises information for one or more user interface elements in a data format specified by a host of the USB device.

43. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the application is an operating system.

44. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises communicating, by the USB device, the host-defined string descriptor to the requesting application.

44. (New) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the method further comprises displaying, by the computing device, a set of user interface elements specified by the at least a portion to present a user interface appropriate to the USB device to a user.

45. (New) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the application is an operating system.

46. (New) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-program instructions executable by a processor for:

communicating, by a component of an operating system, a non-standard USB device request to a device, the non-standard USB device request requesting an extended property from the device, the extended property providing data that is predetermined to be compatible for use by the component or the operating system, the data comprising user interface information associated with the USB device; and

responsive to the communicating, receiving, by the component, an extended property descriptor from the device, the extended property descriptor comprising at least the extended property.